

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 00329 101646Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----- 121370

R 101518Z JAN 75
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1334
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

S E C R E T CAIRO 0329

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, US, SY
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AID FROM USG TO OVERTHROW ASAD

1. AN INDIVIDUAL WHO GAVE HIS NAME AS ABDEL HADI EL-ATTAR
CAME TO EMBASSY JAN 10 REQUESTING APPOINTMENT WITH AMBASSADOR.
INSTEAD RECEPTIONIST REFERRED HIM TO EMBOFF TO WHOM HE MADE
FOLLOWING REMARKS.

2. HE SAID SITUATION IN SYRIA WAS VERY BAD DUE TO BAATHI
INFLUENCE AND 'ALAWI STRANGLEHOLD ON ALL CIVILIAN AND MILITARY
COMMANDS. HE ASKED FOR APPOINTMENT WITH AMBASSADOR FOR
PURPOSE OF SOLICITING USG AID TO MOUNT COUP AGAINST ASAD,
CLAIMING HE AND HIS FRIENDS WERE WORKING TO THAT END. ASKED
IF HE IS NOW LIVING IN SYRIA, HE REPLIED HE IS SYRIAN, BUT DID
NOT ANSWER QUESTION. HE SAID HE IS TOURING ARAB COUNTRIES
AND WORKS FOR "CERTAIN ORGANIZATIONS".

3. EMBOFF SAID AMBASSADOR IS EXTREMELY BUSY AND THAT
MR. ATTAR SHOULD UNDERSTAND SYRIAN DOMESTIC AFFAIRS ARE NOT
BUSINESS OF USG. HE THANKED EMBOFF FOR LISTENING AND LEFT
QUIETLY. ATTAR SAID HE DID NOT SPEAK ENGLISH. IN ARABIC HE
USED SOME EGYPTIAN WORDS BUT HIS ACCENT SEEMED TO BE SYRIAN
OR PALESTINIAN. IN HIS LATE FIFTIES, HE WAS WELL DRESSED
AND SPOKE QUIETLY AND QUICKLY. WE HAVE NEVER HEARD OF HIM
HERE. PERHAPS EMBASSY DAMASCUS CAN SHED SOME LIGHT.

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EILTS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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